

REMARKS

Claims 22, 42, and 44 have been amended herein. Claims 24, 30, 32, 40, 41, 47, 50, and 53 are canceled herein. Claims 18, 22-23, 33-34, 42-46, 48-49, 51-52, and 54 remain in the case. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The above amendment is believed to place all of the now-pending claims in condition for allowance. Specifically, as noted in the Advisory Office Action, Claims 18, 33-34, 42-43, and 54 were allowed outright, and Claims 24, 47, 50, and 53 were noted as containing allowable subject matter, but objected to as depending from a rejected base claim. As amended, all of the now-pending claims recite that the immunoglobulin heavy chain binding protein has an amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ. ID. NO: 1 or SEQ. ID. NO: 2.

Applicants therefore submit that the rejection of Claims 22 and 23 under §102(b) in view of Kozutsumi et al. has been rendered moot by the amendment to Claim 22. Withdrawal of the same is requested.

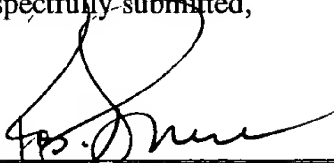
Likewise, the rejection of Claims 44, 48, and 51 under §102(b) in view of McGuire et al. have been rendered moot by the amendment to Claim 44. Withdrawal of the same is respectfully requested.

The rejection of Claim 45 under §103(a) in view of McGuire et al. also has been rendered moot by the amendment to Claim 44. Withdrawal of the same is respectfully requested.

Lastly, the rejection of Claims 44-46, 49, and 52 under §103(a) in view of McGuire et al. in view of Hsu et al. or Sambrook et al. also has been rendered moot by the amendment to Claim 44. Withdrawal of the same is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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